

International Republican Institute, which I chair, now moves to the State Department, where he will serve as Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. More importantly, persecuted masses around the world who are deprived of their rights and freedoms, the right to choose what government represents them, the right to live and speak freely, and the right to organize for safe and decent working conditions, have an important ally in Lorne.

America's foreign relations rightly reflect our belief that our most basic values as a nation are universal values; and that citizens in dictatorships cherish these values as much as we do, despite what tyrannical leaders may do to subjugate them. Our values are contagious, which is why autocrats fear them so. Lorne has dedicated his career to promoting these values and advancing our national interest worldwide, to the benefit of many of its citizens.

Lorne served on my staff for 6 years in both the House and Senate and was a wonderful asset to me. He was such a wonderful asset that President Bush and Secretary of State Baker tapped him to be Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs when they took office. Lorne served with distinction in that job, and as Director for Asian Affairs on President Bush's National Security Council.

As Vice President and then President of the International Republican Institute from 1993 until today, Lorne invigorated an organization created by President Reagan to shine the light of freedom upon the darkest corners of the Earth. Lorne's vision and management of the Institute, which operates in over 30 countries under sometimes trying conditions, have earned IRI the respect and gratitude of democrats from Serbia to South Africa, Cuba to Cambodia, and Azerbaijan to Zimbabwe. In many countries, the struggle continues, while in others, ruling democrats speak glowingly of how IRI helped them set their people free. Lorne and the IRI staff have been integral to these democratic advances.

We have much to do yet as a country to improve human rights, labor rights, and political freedom overseas. As Secretary Powell's point man on these critical issues, Lorne has his work cut out for him. But he is ready. I am very proud of him, and I know his late father, my dear friend, would be also.

NOMINATION OF STEPHEN BRAUER

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, the nomination just confirmed, No. 145, Stephen Brauer to be Ambassador to Belgium, is a great personal pleasure for me. Stephen Brauer has been a terrific leader in the St. Louis community. He is a man who distinguished himself in Vietnam and won the Vietnam medal, who has served as honorary counsel to Belgium and has done business throughout Europe. He will be a great

representative for the people of the United States. We wish him well as he goes to prepare for the visit of President Bush on June 13.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

NATIONAL CHILD'S DAY

Mr. BOND. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from consideration of S. Res. 90, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 90) designating June 3, 2001, as National Child's Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BOND. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 90) was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 90

Whereas June 3, 2001, the first Sunday of June, falls between Mother's Day and Father's Day;

Whereas each child is unique, is a blessing, and holds a distinct place in the family unit;

Whereas the people of the United States should celebrate children as the most valuable asset of the United States;

Whereas the children represent the future, hope, and inspiration of the United States;

Whereas the children of the United States should be allowed to feel that their ideas and dreams will be respected because adults in the United States take time to listen;

Whereas many children of the United States face crises of grave proportions, especially as they enter adolescent years;

Whereas it is important for parents to spend time listening to their children on a daily basis;

Whereas modern societal and economic demands often pull the family apart;

Whereas, whenever practicable, it is important for both parents to be involved in their child's life;

Whereas encouragement should be given to families to set aside special time for all family members to engage together in family activities;

Whereas adults in the United States should have an opportunity to reminisce about their youth to recapture some of the fresh insight, innocence, and dreams that they may have lost through the years;

Whereas the designation of a day to commemorate the children of the United States will provide an opportunity to emphasize to children the importance of their developing

an ability to make the choices necessary to distance themselves from impropriety and to contribute to their communities;

Whereas the people of the United States should emphasize to children the importance of family life, education, and spiritual qualities;

Whereas because children are the responsibility of all people of the United States, everyone should celebrate children, whose questions, laughter, and dreams are important to the existence of the United States; and

Whereas the designation of a day to commemorate our children will emphasize to the people of the United States the importance of the role of the child within the family and society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 3, 2001, as "National Child's Day"; and

(2) requests the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

WELCOMING HIS HOLINESS KAREKIN II, SUPREME PATRIARCH AND CATHOLICOS OF ALL ARMENIANS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 139 received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 139) welcoming His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, on his visit to the United States and commemorating the 1700th anniversary of the acceptance of Christianity in Armenia.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. BOND. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, without any intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (H. Con. Res. 139) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 964

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I understand S. 964, introduced earlier today by Senators KENNEDY, AKAKA, and others, is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 964) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

Mr. BOND. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read for